



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS
The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of
Homeland Security and Emergency Management
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HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS AVAILABLE – New Hampshire has received more than \$7.8 million in Homeland Security grants for Fiscal Year 2006. Most of that money will go to local jurisdictions for equipment and training. The state has received \$4.3 million for the State Homeland Security Program, 80 percent of which is allocated to local government with the remaining 20 percent going to the state. The second major program under the grant is the Law Enforcement Terrorism Program, in the amount of \$3.1 million. It is also split 80/20 between local governments and the state. In addition, the state Citizen Corps Program will receive \$194,243 and the Metropolitan Medical Response Program will receive \$232,330.

The N.H. Department of Safety's Grants Management Unit held a number of workshops around the state to provide information on application procedures. Officials with questions may call the Grants Management Unit at 271-7033 or e-mail at homelandgrants@safety.state.nh.us.

SEABROOK SHUT DOWN WHEN GENERATORS FAIL – Seabrook Station was shut down for four days in early September when two back-up diesel generators failed. There were no problems with the plant itself, but U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission rules require that the plant be shut down when auxiliary generators are not available. No emergency classification level was assigned because the plant itself was not affected. No action was required by state or local emergency management personnel. Technicians repaired the generators over the Labor Day weekend and the plant was back in full operation by 8 p.m. on September 4th. In addition to the generators, Seabrook has three separate off-site power lines to provide power for plant operations.

EM RADIO SPOTS BEGIN AIRING – Beginning this fall N.H. Homeland Security and Emergency Management is running a new series of 60-second radio spots promoting important emergency management themes. Subjects include home emergency preparedness, schools and flooding. All the spots are tagged with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management 800 number for more information.

The radio spots are a joint project of the N.H. Department of Safety and the N.H. Association of Broadcasters. They will be broadcast on nearly all New Hampshire radio stations through March 2007.

ALL-MEDIA COMMUNICATOR BEGINS OPERATIONS – The state Communicator NXT! is up and running, enabling rapid notification of professional staff during a public health or other emergency. Communicator NXT! is now being utilized in many ways, primarily in the public health sector. The Communicator NXT! is a high speed notification system. This system is used to send messages to many people simultaneously. Messages may be sent by telephone (landline and cellular), e-mail, fax, numeric and alpha pager. The system is being used to send both emergency and non-emergency notifications. These notifications are received by state agency staff and external partners. You may have received a monthly reminder notification to update your contact information. This reminder is automatically generated by this system. Remember to keep your login name, password and user ID in a secure location for access to the system and for receiving secure telephone notifications. For further information, please contact Nadine Manfredi, Health Alert Network Coordinator, at nmanfredi@nhoem.state.nh.us.

CHEMPACK PROVIDES CHEMICAL WEAPON ANTIDOTES - The Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) has large quantities of medicines and medical supplies to protect the American public in the event of a large-scale public health emergency. But SNS supplies might not get where they are needed soon enough, so supplies of certain medicines are being pre-positioned. The Chempack project is placing repositories of nerve agent antidotes around the country for the immediate treatment of victims exposed to chemical or nerve agents.

Eight New Hampshire hospitals have Chempack supplies to ensure rapid statewide availability. In the coming months, these hospitals will be reaching out to fire, police, EMS and other hospitals to develop protocols on how to access the Chempack supplies if needed. New Hampshire's Chempack program is managed by the N.H. Department of Safety, Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

MAY FLOODING WAS STATE'S MOST EXPENSIVE DISASTER – The widespread flooding that struck New Hampshire in May has become the state's most expensive natural disaster in more than half a century. Damage to public infrastructure so far totals more than \$14.7 to communities in seven counties. That figure is expected to increase as work continues to repair the damage. Damage in the October 2005 flood totaled \$14.6 million. The ice storm of January 1998 caused damage totaling \$12.4 million.

CONFERENCE HELD ON PROTECTING PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS – About 30 representatives of state agencies and private organizations met for a day-long conference on protecting people with special needs during emergencies. "Special needs" can be just about anything that would prevent people from taking care of themselves during an evacuation or other emergency action. It includes people with physical or mental handicaps, non-English speakers, the elderly or homeless. Anyone who is unable to receive emergency instructions or respond to them will require special attention from emergency responders during disasters.

Special needs planning has been a part of emergency planning for nuclear power plants for some time, but it is now being incorporated into all-hazards planning. The conference was intended to identify resources and tools to accomplish that.

PREPAREDNESS CONFERENCE HELD FOR VOLUNTEERS - The second Annual Volunteer NH!/Citizen Corps Preparedness Conference was held September 16th at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy. More than 80 participants listened to Governor Lynch praise the efforts of volunteers and emergency responders throughout the state for the work they did in the wake of the May floods. Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Christopher Pope reminded everyone to make sure that, as they encourage the citizens of New Hampshire to be prepared and develop emergency plans and kits, that they make sure their own homes and families are prepared as well.

During an awards ceremony, Volunteer NH!/Citizen Corps presented CERT teams from Goffstown, Pelham, Salem, New Ipswich and Kingston with plaques for their outstanding response and recovery efforts during the May floods.